

## ABSTRACT

[0031] A method and system for chrome cut-out regions on a reticle is described.

The method includes determining a location of one or more regions on a reticle that

- 5 come in contact with a reticle handling, storage, or support surface and generating a pattern to be written on the reticle, where the pattern includes one or more cut-out regions that correspond to the one or more regions that come in contact with the reticle handling, storage, or support surface. The pattern may then be written on a reticle blank and developed and etched to remove the reticle surface chrome from
- 10 the one or more regions that have been determined to come in contact with the reticle handling, storage, or support surface.